

[illegible]

rk apparatus comprising:
al network data port;
rk data monitor coupled to the ex
rk data;
or coupled to the network data
rk configurator coupled to the exte
o automatically configure the flow
rk data port in reponse to instruc

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rk apparatus of claim 1 further compris
re data and program instructions.

rk apparatus of claim 2 further compris
processor and the memory.

rk apparatus of claim 3 wherein the ma
network maintenance station.

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1 5. The apparatus of claim 3 wherein the network data monitor comprises
2 a set of monitor program instructions stored in the memory and executed by
3 the processor.

1 6. The apparatus of claim 5 wherein the set of monitor program
2 instructions comprises program instructions transferred to the memory
3 through the maintenance data port from an external network maintenance
4 station.

1 7. The apparatus of claim 3 wherein the network configurator comprises a
2 set of network configurator program instructions stored in the memory and
3 executed by the processor.

1 8. The apparatus of claim 7 wherein the set of network configurator
2 program instructions comprises program instructions transferred to the
3 memory through the maintenance data port from an external network
4 maintenance station.

1 9. The apparatus of claim 3 wherein the processor transfers monitor
2 information through the maintenance data port to an external network
3 maintenance station.

1 10. A method for configuring a network switch having an external
2 network data port, processor and memory, the method comprising the steps
3 of:

4 monitoring network data on the external network data port;
5 comparing the network data to a threshold condition; and
6 automatically configuring the network switch if the network data
7 meets the threshold condition.

1 11. The method of claim 10 further comprising the step of transferring a set
2 of monitor program instructions to the memory through a maintenance data
3 port from an external network maintenance station.

1 12. The method of claim 10 further comprising the step of transferring a set
2 of network configurator program instructions to the memory through a
3 maintenance data port from an external network maintenance station.

1 13. The method of claim 10 further comprising the step of transferring
2 monitor information about the network data to an external network
3 maintenance station through a maintenance data port.

1 14. The method of claim 10 wherein the step of automatically configuring
2 the network switch comprises the step of configuring the network switch in
3 response to instructions received from the processor.

